

# Roads, bridges named for Patton, Eula Hall, F.M. Burke



On Monday, October 30, Governor Ernie Fletcher and former Governor Paul Patton came together for an historic occasion. Fletcher announced that he and Transportation Secretary Bill Nighbert had decided to name all of new US 119 in Pike County **Paul E. Patton Highway**. This includes all the road from the West Virginia state line to the intersection with US 23 at Buckley's Creek.

Fletcher enumerated about a dozen things that Patton accomplished during his two terms as the state's highest government official, particularly pointing out important Workers Compensation legislation that Patton proposed to the Kentucky General Assembly. He recognized Patton's role in accelerating the construction of US 119, which started in the early 1970s and is largely funded by federal dollars through the Appalachian Regional Commission. The state's portion of the cost is about 20%. There is only one section left under construction (from Johns Creek through Scott Fork to Bent Branch, less than two miles). It is expected to be finished by early 2009.

Fletcher was accompanied by First Lady Glenna Fletcher and newly appointed Environmental and Public Protection Secretary Teresa Hill. During the program, the Governor also recognized James T. Dotson, former Pike County School Superintendent, and said that the bridge that is now under construction at Bent Branch will be named for the long-time educator.



*Photos by Charity Collins/District 12*